



01-03-06

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PATENT

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor: Robertson, S.

Examiner:

Serial No.: 10/634,627

Group Art Unit:

Filing Date: 08/05/03

Attorney Docket No.: ROBERT.P002D1

Title of Invention: System and Method for Providing Electronic Multi-Merchant Gift Registry Services Over a Distributed Network

Seattle, Washington 98109  
December 30, 2005TO THE COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450  
Mail Stop - Petitions

## PETITION UNDER 37 CFR 1.78a(3)

This is a petition under 37 CFR 1.78a(3) to add a priority reference to a prior non-provisional application in the present case. This priority reference was unintentionally omitted from the specification when filed, and the entire delay between the date the claim was due and date of this petition was unintentional.

This application was filed in some haste *pro se* by Applicant himself, upon learning that the parent case was to issue in a matter of days back in August of 2003. He unintentionally left off the priority reference to the parent application at that time, and also filed the divisional case without Power of Attorney or filing fee. Subsequently, he received a notice to file missing parts, and then turned the case over to the undersigned for completion of filing details, but was unable to provide a copy of the application as filed. Thus, as time was short, in January 2004 the undersigned filed a Power of Attorney that contained what was believed to be a proper parent case reference based upon information from Applicant received at the time, along with the other missing parts and a preliminary claims amendment, but it was still unknown at that point that the priority reference had been unintentionally omitted from the specification as filed.

Subsequently, in the process of investigating why the PTO had not yet provided us with acknowledgment of our priority claim, as contained in the January 2004 Power of Attorney, it was

## CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 CFR 1.8a)

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner of Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

December 30, 2005

  
Patrick Dwyer

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determined that the parent reference supplied in that Power of Attorney had been incorrect, and therefore a Substitute Power of Attorney was prepared and filed in October 2004 to correctly refer to the parent application, namely application serial number 09/307,166 filed 5/7/99 and later issued as US Patent No. 6,609,106. It was believed at the time, and ever since, that nothing else was needed to obtain an acknowledgment of our priority claim back to the parent application. During all this time no one thought it necessary to review the application specification as filed<sup>1</sup> and it remained unknown to us that it did not itself yet contain a reference and priority claim to the parent application.

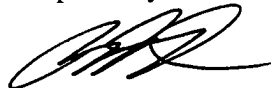
It has now just been brought to our attention by a third party who has reviewed the published application themselves that a priority claim is indeed missing from the application itself, and we have just confirmed that fact. At no time did Applicant or the undersigned intend to leave out this reference, and the delay in providing this reference is therefore entirely unintentional.

Therefore, attached hereto is an amended first page of the specification (in both marked up and clean versions), adding the priority reference to the parent application, and this amendment is hereby requested to be entered. Also attached hereto is a check for the fee required for this petition by 37 CFR 1.17t.

Applicant requests that this petition be speedily granted, and if there are any questions, Applicant requests a call to Patrick Dwyer at (206) 550-4049.

P002d1-UIDelayedCIm2Priority.pet

Respectfully submitted,



PATRICK MICHAEL DWYER  
Reg. No. 32,411

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<sup>1</sup> Even in June 2005, when it seemed desirable, upon review of the claims on file, to make further preliminary claim amendments, the actual filed application document was not reviewed, since its specification was believed to be identical to the parent.



Revised P.1  
10/634,627

Patent Application of

Steven C. Robertson

for

**System and Method for Providing Electronic Multi-Merchant  
Gift Registry Services Over a Distributed Network**

**Cross-Reference to Related Applications**

This application is a Division of US patent application serial number 09/307,166 filed 5/7/99, now issued as US Patent No. 6,609,106.

**Background - Field of Invention**

This invention relates to an online Gift Registry and reminder systems that allows consumer to register gifts or items of interest in a centralized "Wish List" database. These gifts can be open-ended or tied to a specific event such as a wedding.

**Background - Description of Prior Art**

Traditionally, in the United States, there have been bridal registries available in department stores that allow couples to register gifts that they would like to receive for a wedding present, but there are no corresponding registries for other occasions. Some other occasions may be such as a) Baby Showers; b) Christmas; c) Graduations; d) Funerals; e) Father's Day; f) Mother's Day; g) Anniversaries; and other holiday or religious events.



Marked up 10/634,627

Patent Application of

Steven C. Robertson

for

System and Method for Providing Electronic Multi-Merchant  
Gift Registry Services Over a Distributed Network

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